

have rather damaged the specimen, but still not so as to entirely destroy the beauty of this remarkable butterfly. No lepidopterous insect of its magnitude has hitherto been known from the locality of this species; which, from the other insects contained in the same box, is supposed (as no memorandum was sent with it) to be either Solomon Islands, Aneiteum, New Hebrides or the Fiji group,—at any rate from one of the islands in the South Pacific Ocean.

The figure (Pl. XXXIX.) represents it of its natural size. The general colour is glossy bronze-black, with the two outer rows of irregular-sized spots of pure white, while those at the base of the fore wings are rich king-yellow, but partly pure white outerly; the anterior margin of the secondary wings narrowly bordered with king-yellow.

The under surface like the upper; but the anterior margin of the secondary wings broadly bordered, and some of the spots tinged, with rich king-yellow. The head and thorax pure black; the body ochraceous yellow above, and black along the middle beneath.

It is a female. The male remains at present unknown, but one may suppose, by the usual brilliancy of the males of this group to which it belongs, that it is likely to prove a most beautiful insect, exhibiting some gorgeous combination of colour.

The name I propose for this splendid insect is *Papilio* (*Ornithoptera*) *Victoriæ*.

3. DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME COLEOPTEROUS INSECTS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM, HITHERTO APPARENTLY UNNOTICED. BY ADAM WHITE.

(Annulosa, Pl. XL. XLI.)

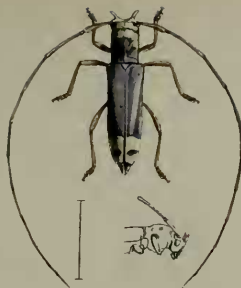
The number of “new species” of Coleopterous Insects in the Museum collection is in relative proportion to the great richness of the other branches. In this paper, some species belonging to the families *Prionidæ*, *Lamiadæ*, and *Cetoniadæ* will be given, as there is every likelihood, from the way in which these great groups have been investigated by Messrs. Serville, Burmeister, Schaum, Gory, and other entomologists, that the species are as yet unrecorded in scientific works; it is to the kindness of Dr. Gray, the keeper of the department, that I am indebted for permission in laying these descriptions before the Society.

Tribe LONGICORNIA.

Family PRIONIDÆ.

The *Prionidæ* consist of several marked subfamilies, in one of which we would place TRICTENOTOMA, G. R. Gray, one of the most interesting of the genera of Beetles. This form, which appears to me to be altogether Longicorn, is chiefly remarkable for its heteromerous tarsi, and for the ninth and tenth joints of its antennæ being serrated or produced at the end, almost as in the *Lucanidæ*. It is one of those “aberrant” forms which naturalists call “annectent,”

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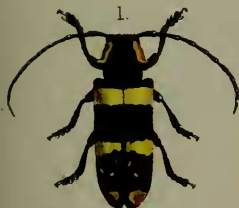
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- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. <i>Tragocephala</i> <i>Comitessa</i> . | 6. <i>Deucalion</i> <i>Wollaston</i> . | 11 <i>Phædinus</i> <i>xanthomelas</i> . |
| 2. " <i>Chevolatii</i> . | 7. <i>Moneilema</i> <i>albopictum</i> | 12 <i>Phœbe</i> <i>concinna</i> |
| 3. " <i>ducalis</i> . | 8. <i>Amsocerus</i> <i>onca</i> | 13 <i>Agelasta</i> <i>calizona</i> |
| 4. " <i>gemmaria</i> . | 9. " <i>capucinus</i> . | 14. " <i>amca</i> . |
| 5. " <i>Guerini</i> . | 10. " <i>dulcissimus</i> | 15. " <i>Newmanni</i> . |



1. 2. *Trigonophorus Hookeri* ♂. ♀
 3. *Stethodesma Servillei*.
 4. *Clinteria ducalis*.
 5. " *Hoffmeisteri*.
 10. *Cetoma Schaumii*.

6. *Cetonia procera*.
 7. *Schizorhina* Idæ.
 8. " *Bassii*.
 9. " *Ermha*.



and which appear to partake of the characters of several groups,—for instance, with the depressed form and velvety pilosity of many *Elateridæ*, it has five joints to the two first pairs of legs, and four only to the hind pair. Its head, jaws, and legs are essentially Longicorn, the number of joints of the tarsi being not a necessary character of the group; the tarsi of *Parandra* are pentamerous, and *Dorx pentamera*, an Australian insect described by Mr. Newman, has likewise five joints to all the tarsi. The sternum of *Trictenotoma* is also peculiar, that of the prothorax being received into a notch of the mesothorax, while the sternum of the metathorax is capable of being firmly fixed by “dovetailing,” as it were, into the hinder notch of the mesothorax; in fact, this structure must enable the insect, if placed on its flat back, to “right” itself, like those Beetles called “Skip-jacks” (*Elateridæ*). In some species, such as *T. Childrenii* (G. R. Gray), *T. Templetonii* (Westw.), and *T. Grayii* (F. Smith), the sternum of the metathorax bulges; in *T. ænea* (Parry) that part is flattened, and the thorax is curiously serrated on the lateral margin in front, and has a very projecting point on the side beyond the middle, and notched between that point and the posterior angle, instead of being nearly straight and simply angled as in the other three species. Of these *Trictenotomæ*, all the species described are in the Museum Collection; the *T. Childrenii* being the type female specimen from the Tenasserim coast, described by Mr. G. R. Gray in one of the two insect volumes of Griffith’s edition of ‘Cuvier’s Animal Kingdom’ (pl. 5 and 5*). The *T. Templetonii* of Westwood (Oriental Ent. tab. 23, f. 3) is a native of Ceylon; like the former, it has a yellowish-grey pile; the *T. Grayii* described by Mr. F. Smith in 1851 (Cat. Coleopt. Brit. Mus. *Cucujidæ*, p. 18) is from Borneo, and has a purplish base beneath the more tawny pile of the upper parts; in the Museum there are two females, one from the collection of Mr. Alfred Wallace, who obtained it at Sarawak. The *T. ænea*, the giant of the genus, is of a brassy green, slightly pilose above. The Museum has lately obtained a specimen from India; the specimen was found by a soldier at Dhargeeling.

To the same family, and not very remote from the subfamily containing *Spondylis* and its allies, belongs, in the opinion of Dr. Burmeister, Mr. Westwood, and Mr. Leconte, the very anomalous *Hypoccephalus*, of which a fine figure, with some striking remarks, has been published by Mr. Curtis in the “Transactions of the Linnean Society;” of this species, three specimens known to me, exist in this country, one in Mr. Melly’s great cabinet at Liverpool, a second drawn by Mr. Westwood in the ‘Arcana Entomologica,’ from a specimen in his own very curious collection, and a third exhibited at the Linnean Society in 1854, from the rare cabinet of Mr. Aspinall Turner of Manchester. This remarkable Prionidous insect, like the Mole-cricket, has been altogether constructed for a subterraneous life; its marvelously developed thorax, fossorial and burrowing legs, curiously defended head, abbreviated anteunæ, and other characters well shown by Mr. Westwood, and particularly by Mr. Curtis, all mark this; just as *Dorysthenes* of the East, a burrowing insect, is shown by

M. Guerin-Meneville, to have Walrus-like jaws, as *Lethrus* has incurved mandibles and other features useful in supporting the creature in the holes of the ground whence it comes. As aberrant *Prionidæ* may be mentioned, the very curious genera *Torneutes*, Reich., described in the Trans. Ent. Soc. Lond. (ii. 9, t. 2, f. 7), of which three species are now known, one from Patagonia, described by M. Guerin, and the singularly interesting *Erichsonia* of Mexico, named by Mr. Westwood, in memory of that most laborious and scientific of all the German entomologists, Dr. Erichson. The genus *Thaumasus*, Reich. (Ann. Soc. Ent. Fr. 1853, p. 419), founded on what Olivier described as a gigantic species of *Ips* (*Ips gigas*, Journ. d'Hist. Nat. 1792, i. 267, pl. 14. f. 6; *Thaumasus g.* Reich. l. c. p. 422, pl. 13. f. 4.), may be particularized as another aberrant form. In fact, the family *Prionidæ*, like many other great families, is more negative than positive, and will be found at its extremities, or at many points of its circumference, to lead off to other families, and even tribes: so that the naturalist, who wishes to simplify arrangement, however much he may split up genera, ought to avoid dividing families.

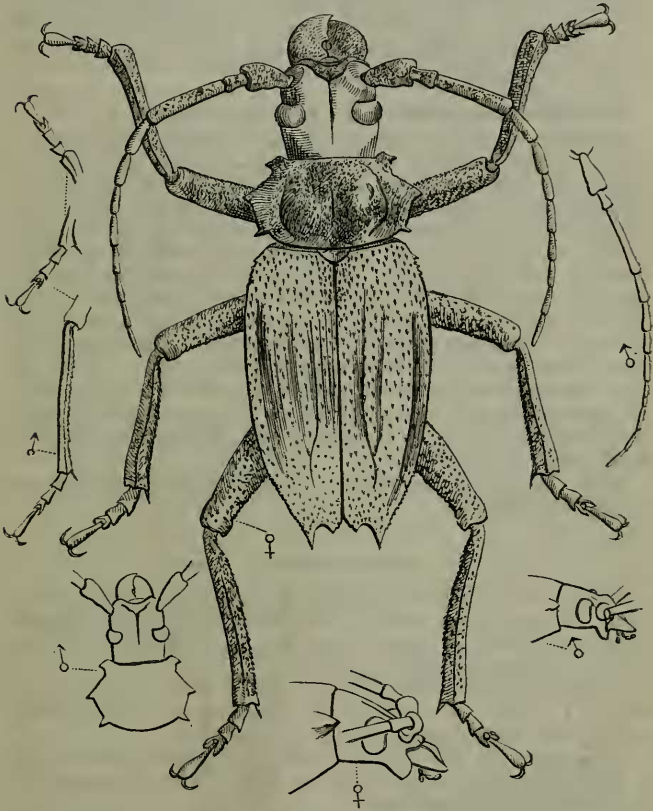
It may interest the general reader to quote a short passage from a privately circulated paper, written by my friend Mr. Empson of Bath, a distinguished natural-history traveller in South America. The insect alluded to is the noble *Psalidognathus Friendii* (G. R. Gray), which is named by the natives of Columbia 'Alaja,' that is, 'the jewel.' Mr. Empson remarks, "the first of these splendid insects which I ever saw, was at a feast given by the Cabildo, at Mariquita; upon that occasion Don Domingo Conde had placed one of them as a button to loop up, after the Spanish fashion, the broad brim of his Panama hat; to this brilliant ornament a loop of living Fireflies was attached, in a mode common in South America, and which does not injure those dazzling insect gems; thus decorated, the *sombrero* of the *cavalero* was more conspicuous in the ball-room than the jewelled tiaras of his more wealthy neighbours, although sparkling with the choice emeralds from the mines of Muzo.

"After many a weary search," adds Mr. Empson, "with Don Domingo for my guide, in the primæval forests on the eastern slopes of the Andes, we captured three of those Alajas." One of those, he remarks, "was resting on the perishing trunk of a palm-tree; in our eagerness to secure it, my hand was so much lacerated that I was obliged to relinquish my prize, and we saw its gorgeous colours flashing beneath the full blaze of a tropical sun; it settled on the stem of a cedar, and was then more cautiously transferred into my possession."

With these few remarks, which might be much amplified, a curious genus of *Prionidæ*, allied to *Psalidognathus*, G. R. Gray, and to *Prionacalus*, figured in a previous part of the Proceedings, may be here briefly described. It is strictly pseudo-tetramerous, and has much of the character of Mr. George Gray's fine Columbian genus. This genus, for which I would propose the name *Psalidocoptus**, is

* *Ψαλις*, scissors, and *κόπτω*, from a fanciful idea of the waved outline being as it were cut with that instrument.

from Tana, in the New Hebrides, and is one of those fine insects for which science is indebted to the researches of Mr. John Macgillivray, the late able Naturalist of H.M. surveying ship 'Herald.' The sternum does not notably differ from that of *Psalidognathus*, but it



differs in having very short palpi, much shorter antennæ, the third joint the longest, the eight following about equal in length. Head, exclusive of the jaws, rather longer than wide, behind the eyes somewhat narrowed and without projection. Eyes prominent, transversely kidney-shaped, very slightly notched in front. Thorax wider than long, but much longer than in *Psalidognathus* and *Prionacalus*, with three broadish spine-like projections on each side, one in front, one about the middle, and one before the hinder angle. Scutellum small and wide, covering the abdomen; in the male, considerably surpassing it. Wingless; elytra united on the suture, contracted some-

what at the base, where there is a short spine, gradually dilated about the middle, and as gradually tapering toward the end, where they terminate in two spine-like points, the outer the longest, the inner almost a continuation of the notch, between which would be the suture; the two points curiously rotundate-emarginate. Legs very long and strong, particularly the femora, which are compressed. Tarsi with small pulvillus on end of three first joints; tarsi of female broader and shorter than those of the male.

PSALIDOCOPTUS SCABER, n. s. (Fig. on p. 11.)

Head between the eyes with a deep line, divided into two in front. Thorax surface curiously undulated, and with the head scarcely rough, although with small scattered warts; the elytra scabrous, with numerous small warts; each elytron with two parallel ridges united behind the middle and a sutural ridge; margin of elytra between warty and serrated. Jaws strong, punctured at the base, incurved, sides parallel, inner side short and obliquely cut between, the cutting edge sharp; a curious tuft of ferruginous hair on trochanter; legs serrated below on femora and tibia, legs more or less scabrous. The whole insect is of a blackish-brown, with ferruginous hairs bordering the inside of the tibiæ of the first and second pairs of legs; thorax beneath, and other parts, liable to be chafed by motion of joints ciliated with ferruginous hairs. Abdomen somewhat squamoso-verruucose beneath, a pit behind each scale-like wart, with a short hair proceeding from it.

Note. The figures were drawn on wood by Miss E. Wing, and are of the size of nature.

Family LAMIADÆ.

Among the Lamioid Longicorns there is a genus containing many finely coloured African species. The genus *Tragocephala*, Dupont (Dej. Cat. p. 638), was first briefly characterized by Laporte in his 'Animaux articulées,' tome ii. p. 472.

TRAGOCEPHALA NOBILIS. *Lamia nobilis*, Fabr. S. El. ii. 297; Oliv. t. 11, f. 76; also described by Fabricius as *Saperda lata*, l. c. p. 318. Sierra Leone. (Coll. Brit. Mus.)

TRAGOCEPHALA FORMOSA. *Cerambyx formosus*, Oliv. t. 20, f. 153, is another well-marked species from S. Africa, abundant in collections. (Coll. Brit. Mus.)

TRAGOCEPHALA PULCHELLA, Westw. Arc. Ent. ii. t. 69, f. 4, is another species from Sierra Leone. (Coll. Brit. Mus.)

TRAGOCEPHALA VARIEGATA, Bertolom., Ann. Sc. Nat. 1845, p. 423. S. Africa (Inhambere).

TRAGOCEPHALA GALATHEA, Chev., Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1855, p. 184, was procured by the Scottish missionaries at Benin, Old Calabar.

The *TRAGOCEPHALA ANGULATOR*, and *T. LUCIA*, described by Olivier and Newman, belong likewise to this genus, but are aberrant forms, as is the *TRAGOCEPHALA TRIFASCIELLA*, described and figured

in the illustrated Proceedings for 1850. The latter differs somewhat from *Tragocephala* proper, while *Lamia angolator*, from its short wide thorax, &c., may hereafter constitute the type of a distinct section: all three are in the Museum Collection.

In the Museum Collection are some undescribed species, which may be characterized as

TRAGOCEPHALA COMITESSA. (Pl. XL. fig. 1.)

T. elongata, nigra; fronte aurantiaca; thoracis lateribus aurantiacis, post tuberculum nigris; elytris fasciis duabus sulphureis, lateribus aurantiacis; prima continua, secunda angustiore, antice et postice sinuata; elytris singulis punctis tribus albis; sutura apice albo-punctata, ante apicem macula aurantiaca margine pallidiore; metathorace maculis duabus aurantiacis, aliquando obsoletis; abdominis segmentis tribus basalibus lateribus subtus aurantiacis.

Long. lin. $9\frac{1}{4}$ -11.

Hab. Africa Austr. (Port Natal). Coll. Brit. Mus. (*Gueinzus* et *Krauss*).

T. formosæ affinis sed distincta.

TRAGOCEPHALA CHEVROLATII, n. s. (Pl. XL. fig. 2.)

T. nigra, capite aurantiaco, mandibulis basi aurantiacis, fascia in genis, fascia inter antennis et vertice nigris; thoracis lateribus flavis, tuberculo apice et postice nigro; dorso nigro, macula parva pallida posticali alteraque antica sæpe obsoletis; elytris singulis nigris; fascia mediana aurantiaca subobliqua, ramum antice ferente; maculis duabus aurantiacis sæpe obsoletis, macula magna aurantiaca ante apicem, punctoque parvo ad apicem; abdominis lateribus aurantiaco maculatis; pedibus cinereo-griseis, femoribus flavo maculatis.

Long. lin. $8\frac{1}{2}$ -11.

Hab. Africa Austr. (Port Natal). In Mus. Brit., &c.

In honorem L. A. Augusti Chevrolat, Parisiensis, Coleopterophili valde egregii.

TRAGOCEPHALA DUCALIS, n. s. (Pl. XL. fig. 3.)

T. capite aurantiaco, fascia oculari, alteraque verticali nigris; antennis crassiusculis, nigris; thorace supra medio nigro, lateribus aurantiaco late marginatis, pube subvermiculata; elytris nigris fasciis duabus aurantiacis suturam haud attingentibus, lateribus latioribus, marginibus pallidis, apice aurantiaco, maculis tribus parvis inter apicem et fasciam secundam, exteriore majore; corpore subtus aurantiaco, abdominis segmentis, medio et lateribus nigris; pedibus ochraceo-griseis, femoribus extus et intus aurantiaco maculatis.

Long. lin. 8- $9\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. Africa Austr. (Port Natal). Coll. Brit. Mus. (*Saunders*, &c.)